



Spring News

October 2007

*Melbourne's Oldest
Community Theatre Company*

President's Report

It seems funny to introduce myself at this late stage but for anyone who did not know I have been President for almost a year now. Time flies when you are having so much fun! My name is Pat Alcock and I have been with Hartwell since about 1993, and love Hartwell Players for all the dear friends I have made over the years, plus the fun I have had being involved in so many different plays in so many different capacities. I also have my daughter, Louise Steele, and grandchildren Max and Cassie involved in Hartwell.

But now it's coming round to the AGM again and we are looking forward to new faces coming on board. It is easy to let other people do the same job time after time, but then you are liable to get bogged down with the same ideas, which I think is not good for a dynamic theatre company.

As next year is our 70th birthday we need lots of enthusiastic people to help make it a memorable celebration for Hartwell Players.

After all we are the oldest community theatre company in Melbourne which is quite an achievement.

On a sad note, David Perkins has died in England following a serious illness. David was a long standing member of The Hartwell Players and acted as treasurer for about 10 years. He was also recently doing the books at the VDL. Our thoughts and prayers are with David's family.

- Pat Alcock



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2007 Awards and AGM

Join us on Sun 4/Nov for our Annual General Meeting and awards ceremony, followed by a sausage sizzle and a chat. Members may also vote or stand for committee.

The Rosabelle Kinsey Award and the Peter Coe Memorial Award will be presented at the AGM. A new Award for Outstanding Contribution from a Youth member will also be made. This new Award is being sponsored by our president, Pat Alcock.

When: 5 pm, Sunday 4 November
What: BYO drinks and snacks
Where: 4 Culliton Road
Camberwell

News from around the traps

Hartwellians get around...

Katherine Payne was seen in **Rose Tattoo** for Malvern Theatre Company.

Several members were involved in the mighty tragedy of **The Greeks: The War** for new company, PMD Productions.

Theresa Holt recently starred in **Misery** for Shoestring Theatre Company.

And look out for **Ian Tweedale** in **Speaking in Tongues** at Peridot

James Chappel is currently touring for **The Wiggles**

Felicité Keeble has won another playwrighting competition, winning the right to have her play, **The Invitation**, performed by professionals at the Danceworks Theatre recently.

And they know how to celebrate...

Colin Donald celebrated a milestone birthday this year (not quite as old as Hartwell!!) and treated his friends to a suitably Hartwellian bash.

Helen Rogers and **Mark Kofler** announced their engagement and we'll be seeing them walk down the aisle in December.

Richard Pappas and **Jenny Boadle** have also announced their betrothal and they intend taking the plunge in late 2008.

The New Theatre

This very exciting project is well underway and we now see a black box theatre in the old car park. We are not sure of the completion date but feel sure that our production of **Black Rock** (Apr-May 2008) should take place in the new venue. We'll keep you posted.

Awards for One Act Play

Hartwell Players have been a force to be reckoned with out on the one-act play festival circuit.

Gemco One Act Play Festival

- Best Actress (Youth):
 - Phoebe Webber
- Runner Up, Best Actor (Youth) :
 - Emmett Redding
- Adjudicator's Award:
 - For creative use of puppets

South Street Festival Ballarat

- Bob Tuttleby
 - Adjudicator's Award
- Liz Lyons
 - Nomination for Adjudicator's Award

Anglesea One Act Play Festival

- Best production
 - Cleanskins
- Best Actress
 - Emma Whately, Cleanskins
- Adjudicator's Award
 - Liz Lyons, Cleanskins
- Best Original Script
 - Michael Olsen, Cleanskins

Congratulations to everyone who made the season a success!

A Doll's House: Bookings Now Open!

- Written by Henrik Ibsen
- Directed by Katherine Payne

About the Play

Nora and Torvald Helmer appear to have the perfect marriage, with a beautiful house and three lovely children. What more could anybody wish for? All is not, however, quite what it seems and when an unscrupulous man with a certain amount of knowledge comes knocking at the door it appears as though the whole shining dream will be destroyed. The greatest threat to their perfect lives, however, may lie, not outside, but within.

A Doll's House is one of Ibsen's best-known and most well-loved plays. Its intricate plot and complex characters have intrigued audiences for generations and the discussion of marriage and the role of women remains as pertinent today as it did over a hundred years ago.

The Hartwell Players bring a fresh interpretation to this classic play, retaining the original text but updating the action to 1950s suburbia. Nora is the perfect housewife, immaculately dressed and waiting with lipstick on to greet her husband as he arrives home from work. Torvald is the conservative bank manager, keeping a tight reign on his doll-wife in his doll-house. Staged in a relaxed supper format, Hartwell's production of A Doll's House promises to be both entertaining and imminently accessible to audiences.

Performances

Evening Performances - 8:00pm:

- October 2007: Fri 26th, Sat 27th
- November 2007: Thu 1st, Sat 3rd, Thu 8th, Fri 9th, Sat 10th

Matinée Performance - 2:00pm:

- November 2007: Sat 3rd

Venue

- Ashwood Secondary College
- Vannam Drive, Ashwood (off High Street Road)
- Melway ref: 60 J10

Bookings:

- 03 9889 5006 or bookings@hartwellplayers.org.au
- Adults \$15, Concession \$10, Family \$35



FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I, _____ (full name)

of _____ (address)

being a member of THE HARTWELL PLAYERS INCORPORATED hereby appoint

of _____

being a member of that incorporated Association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the annual general meeting of the Association to be held on the fourth day of November, 2007 and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of/against (delete as appropriate) any resolutions, as follows: (insert details)

In the election of office bearers I wish to cast a vote for:

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____

Treasurer: _____

Committee Members: _____

Signed: _____

the _____ day of _____ 2007